

"Top of the Line"

Bergamo Center for Lifelong Learning Newsletter

September 1, 2014

Bergamo Shadow

The latest episode of the Bergamo Shadow program was Monday, Aug. 18 when our director Brent Devitt worked side by side with our Director of Conference Planning, **Gina Gregory** at the front desk. We greeted guests, made key lock cards, and arranged the front desk staff schedule for the next month. Brent was introduced to many of the procedures and forms necessary to help make our guests welcome at home. Like our other staff in previous shadowing experiences Gina was very patient and an excellent trainer. Gina presents a professional and friendly first impression for all our guests.

The next shadowing experience will be with the evening custodians. This continues to be weekly learning experience for all and an opportunity to work as equals with all co-workers at Bergamo.

Guest of the Month

A recent visitor to Bergamo was **Fr. Paul Landolfi** who was in town to celebrate his 70th jubilee as a Marianist. Fr. Paul is the U.S. Province liaison to the postulator general for Marianist causes. In other words he helps promote the cause of sainthood for Marianists including Marianist founders Bl. William Chaminade, Marie Thérèse de Lamourous & Adèle de Batz de Trenquelléon, and the Marianist Martyrs whose feast is celebrated on Sept. 18 - Bl. Carlos Erana Gurceta and his two companions, Bl. Fidel Fuidio and Bl. Jesus Hita, who were Marianists religious, imprisoned in hatred of the faith in 1936 in Ciudad Real, Sapin For the entire story on these Marianist Martyrs you may be interested in the You Tube video directed by local UD student David Brun.



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=twitncNeSXo>

Fr. Paul is sending us a set of prints of the Marianist martyrs. Thank you Fr. Paul for being our guest.

Welcome Emily Brun - Youth Program Intern

We introduce **Emily Brun** as our Youth Program Intern for 2014-15. Emily has been participating in retreats at Bergamo about as far back as she can remember, including Summer Family retreats when she was a young girl. Emily has participated in the *World's Greatest Retreat* as a junior in high school and helped lead the retreat as a senior. She will be spending nearly a year as intern until April. In addition to assisting with our high school and youth retreats, one of her projects will be to organize some type of Young Adult Retreat. Welcome aboard Emily!



Thank You Housekeepers!

Sept. 14-20 is International Housekeepers Week. This week is set aside each year for all to focus attention and recognition on the professional housekeepers working in facilities such as hospitals, colleges/schools, and many others who provide a cleaner, safer, healthier environment for us all each day. Many thanks to all our housekeepers & custodians for keeping our Center so clean - **Nikki Leasher, Gene Ketter, Lindsay Fairbanks, Brian Thomas & Joe Keller**. We also thank Karla Parsons for her 7 years of service with the Center. Karla recently resigned from her position and Nikki Leasher has now been promoted to the Housekeeping Coordinator position.

John XXIII Chair & Window

A new feature graces the entrance of the Bergamo Center, a tribute to Pope John XXIII. This art installation celebrates the life, the wisdom and spirit of one of our Catholic Church's newest saints - Saint John XXIII.

The window theme evokes the windows of the Vatican, the same windows that may have inspired John XXIII to comment on the spirit of the Second Vatican Council he convened in 1962.

The chair is a visible symbol of the spiritual presence John XXIII has at Bergamo Retreat Center. The Bergamo Center is named after the boyhood home of Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli who later became Pope John XXIII. The chair is empty, it is simple and it is painted white. It is far less ornate than the seat of the Pope, the throne, or chair of St. Peter. In its simplicity it is in keeping with the humble beginnings of John XXIII.

The simple white chair is similar to one that might be used in a celebration tradition practiced by some in European countries. The tradition is to leave one extra chair and place-setting for an "unexpected guest". This is to celebrate the tradition of hospitality and inclusion. The empty seat is left open just in case a traveler, family member, or a friend knocks on the door, so there would be a place for them to join in the celebrations.

In the spirit of John XXII at Bergamo we strive to carry on the tradition of hospitality and to be welcoming to all our guests.

Invitation to topics and articles.

Next publication of the top of the Line will at the end of September as we lead into October. If anyone has anything to contribute to this communication please submit item by the 20th of each month by sending it to brentd@bergamocenter.org Please send any corrections additions as well.



Marianist Feast Days in September

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Sept. 8
The Most Holy Name of Mary – Sept. 12
Our lady of sorrows – Sept. 15
Memorial of the Marianist Martyrs – Sept. 18

Sorry – there are no Sept. or Oct. birthdays for staff!

Upcoming Retreats & Events in September

Moeller HS – Sept. 4-5
S. Ohio District Church of the Brethren – Sept. 5-6
OSG Retreat – Sept. 5-7
UD Ethos – Sept. 6
Alter HS – Sept. 7-8
Richmond Seton HS – Sept. 8-9
Moeller HS – Sept. 9-12
OH Valley Philosophers – Sept. 12-14
Hartley HS – Sept. 14-15
McAuley HS – Sept. 15-16
Alter Kairos – Sept. 16-19
Enneagram – Sept. 18-21
National Rel. Retreat – Sept. 22-25
Warren Co. Quilters – Sept. 25-27
ISP Ignatian Spirituality Project – Sept. 27-28
Carroll HS – Sept. 28-29
Moeller HS – Sept. 29-30
CJ HS – Sept. 30-Oct 3

